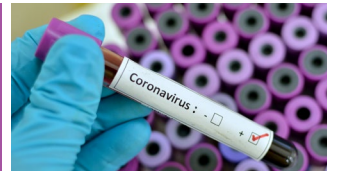


# 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)



## What is 2019 novel coronavirus?

2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) is a virus that has been identified as the cause of an outbreak of respiratory illness initially detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019. Little is known about this new coronavirus, but it does seem to have the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some, including the those who are elderly, immune compromised, and young children.

## How severe is 2019-nCoV?

Experts are still learning about from 2019-nCoV. Reported cases have ranged from a mild illness (similar to a common cold) to severe pneumonia that requires hospitalization. Currently, a small fraction of deaths have been reported primarily in older adults who had other health conditions.

## How does 2019-nCoV spread?

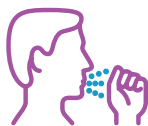
The details about how this new coronavirus spreads is currently unclear. However, other coronaviruses are spread from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes, much like the spread of influenza (flu) and other respiratory pathogens.

## What are the symptoms?

On average, people who have been diagnosed with 2019-nCoV have reported symptoms that may appear in as few as two days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus. Symptoms can include:



Fever



Cough



Difficulty Breathing

Note, in patients who are very young, elderly, immunosuppressed or taking fever-lowering medications, fever may not be present.

## Who is at risk for 2019-nCoV?

Currently the risk to the general public in North Carolina is low. At this time, there have been very few individual cases in the United States. To minimize the

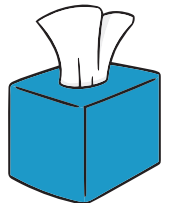
risk of the virus spreading, health officials are working with health care providers to promptly identify and evaluate any suspected cases.

Travelers to and from certain areas of the world may be at increased risk. See [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel) for the latest travel guidance from the CDC. If you have recently traveled to Wuhan, China and are ill or have had contact with a confirmed case of 2019-nCoV and are ill, please contact the Communicable Disease Branch at 919-733-3419.

## How can I prevent acquiring 2019-nCoV?

If you are traveling overseas to China or other places) follow the CDC's guidance, available at [wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel](http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel). The 2019-nCoV is not widespread in the U.S., so no additional precautions are recommended. The steps you can take to prevent spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent novel coronavirus:

- Wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid contact with others who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
- Cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.



At this time there is no vaccine to protect against the novel coronavirus.

## How is 2019-nCoV treated?

There are no medications specifically approved for coronavirus. Most people with mild coronavirus illness recover on their own by drinking plenty of fluids, resting, and taking pain and fever medications. However, some people develop pneumonia and may require medical care or hospitalization.

**For more information: <https://epi.dph.ncdhhs.gov/cd/diseases/coronavirus.html>**



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